

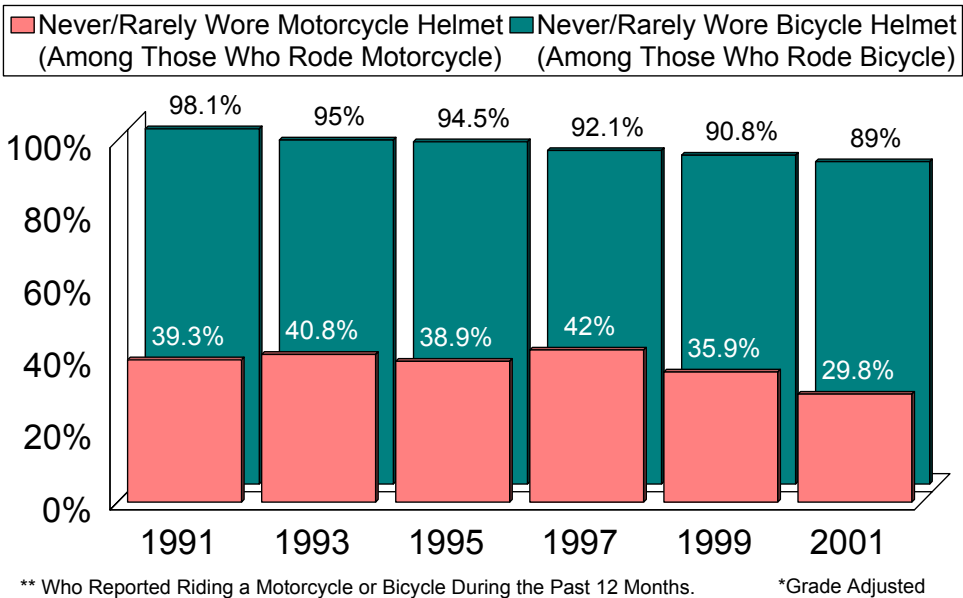
Helmet and Seatbelt Use

The Youth Risk Behavior Survey asked students various questions about safety and violence related behavior. More specifically, students were asked about helmet use while operating a motorcycle or bike and seatbelt use while driving or riding a motor vehicle.

Highlights

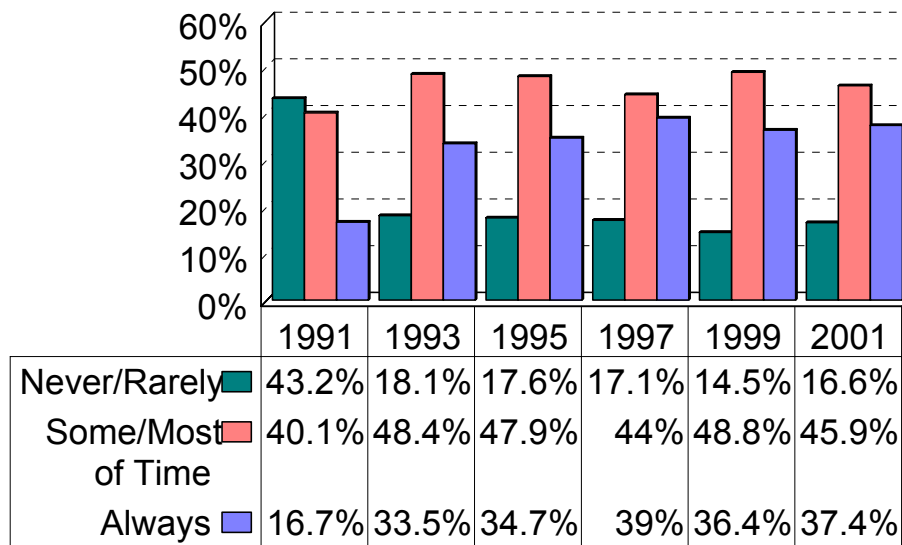
L Although there was very little improvement from 1997 to 2001 in reported usage of bicycle helmets by Lancaster County teens; however, use of motorcycle helmet declined substantially at the same time period. Only 29.8% reported in 2001 that they never or rarely wore motorcycle use

Figure 1: Helmet Use*
High School Students**



L The percentage of teens who reported always wearing their seatbelts when riding in a car driven by someone else decreased from 39% in 1997 to 37.4% in 2001 (Figure 2).

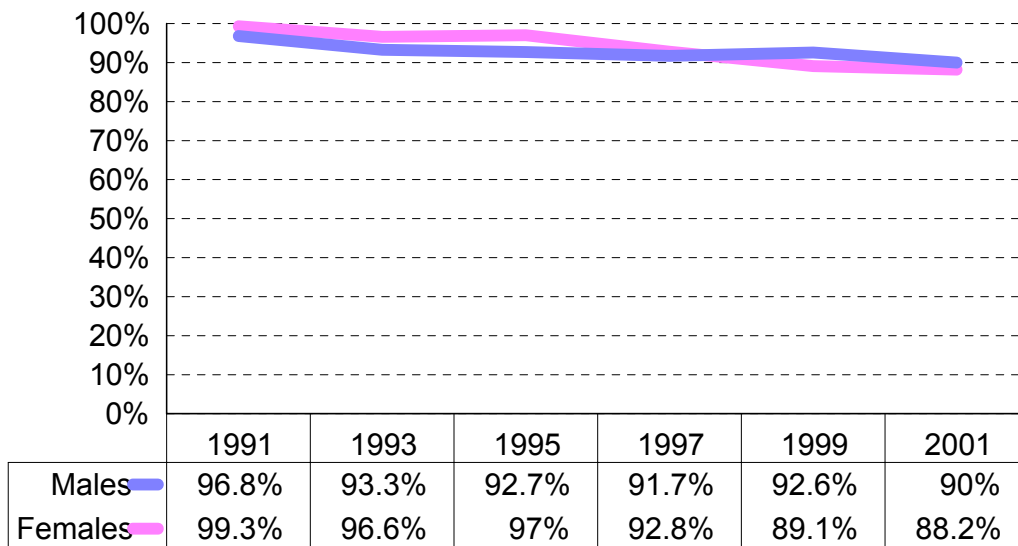
Figure 2: Seatbelt Use*
High School Students Who Rode With Someone Else



*Grade Adjusted

L The percentage of teens who reported never or rarely wearing a helmet when riding a bicycle did not decline significantly for either female or male teens from 1997 to 2001.

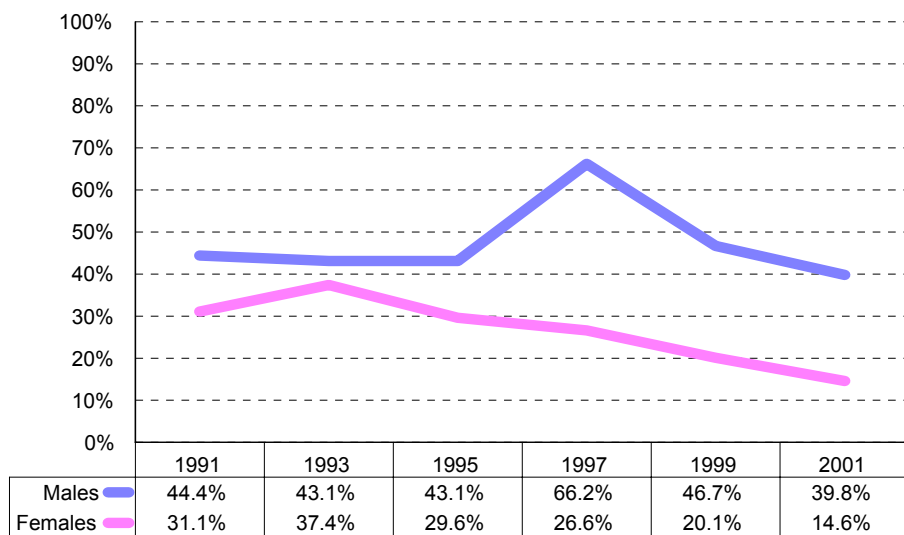
Figure 3: Rare Helmet Use (Bicycle)*
Never or Rarely Wore a Bicycle Helmet
(High School Students Who Reported Riding Bicycle in Past 12 Months)



*Grade Adjusted

L Proportion of both male and female teens who reported never or rarely wearing a motorcycle helmet declined substantially since 1997, although a clear disparity between these two groups continued to persist.

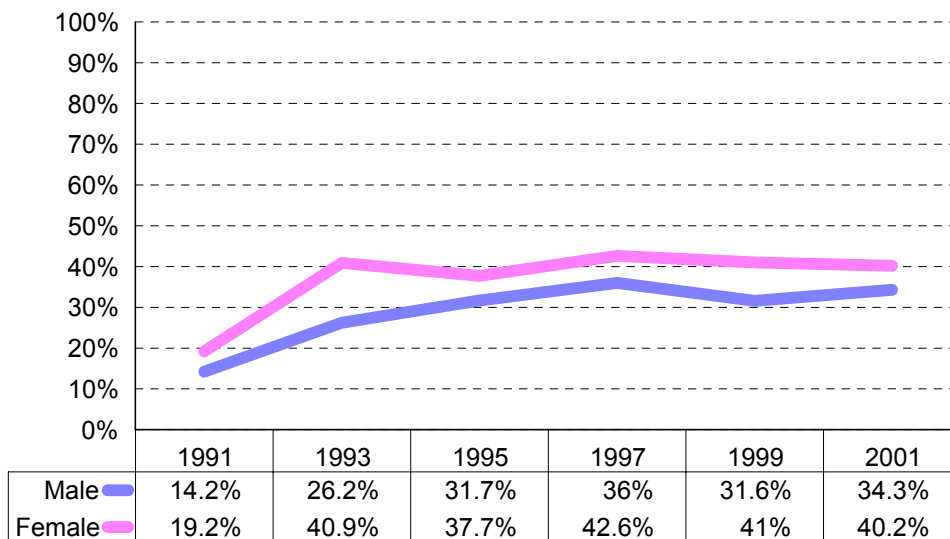
Figure 4: Rare Helmet Use (Motorcycle)*
 Never or Rarely Wore a Motorcycle Helmet
 (High School Students Who Reported Riding Motorcycle in Past 12 Months)



*Grade Adjusted

L Despite a notable difference in seatbelt use by male and female, seatbelt use while riding a car driven by someone else has remained about the same over the last five years.

Figure 5: Seatbelt Use*
 Always Wear a Seatbelt When Riding in a Car Driven by Someone Else
 High School Students



*Grade Adjusted

L Figures 6 & 7 show rare bicycle helmet use and seatbelt use while riding in a car driven by someone else by respondents of different school grades.

Figure 6: Rare Helmet Use (Bicycle) by Grade
 Never or Rarely Wore a Bicycle Helmet
 (High School Students Who Reported Riding Bicycle in Past 12 Months)

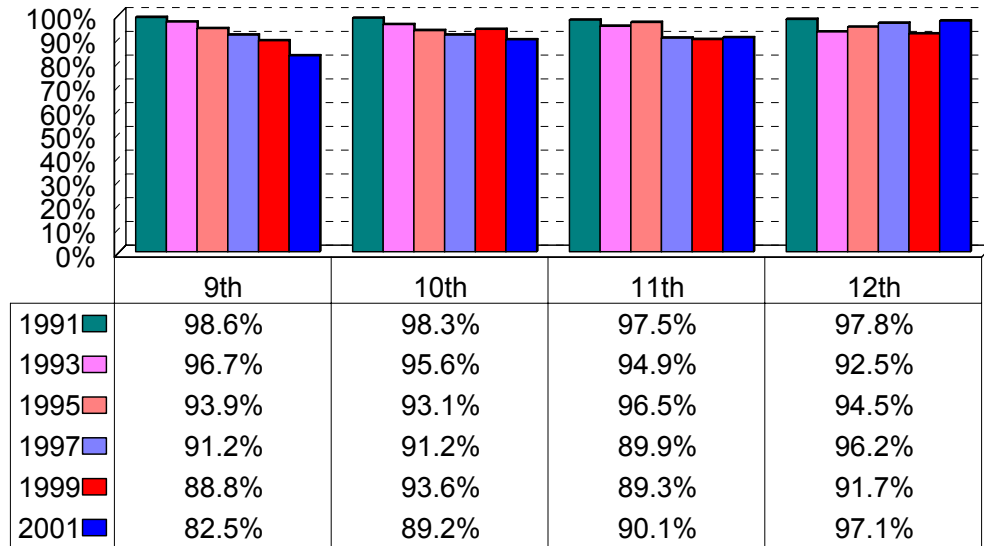
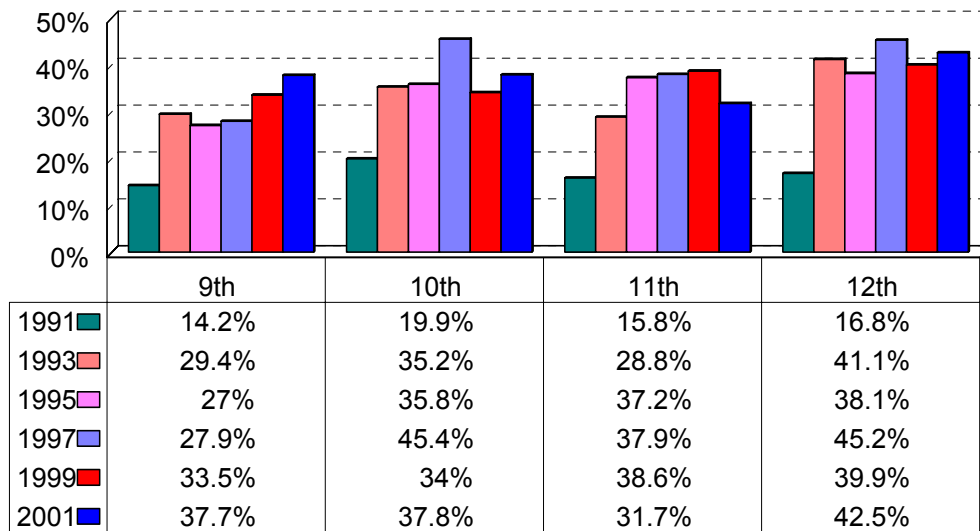
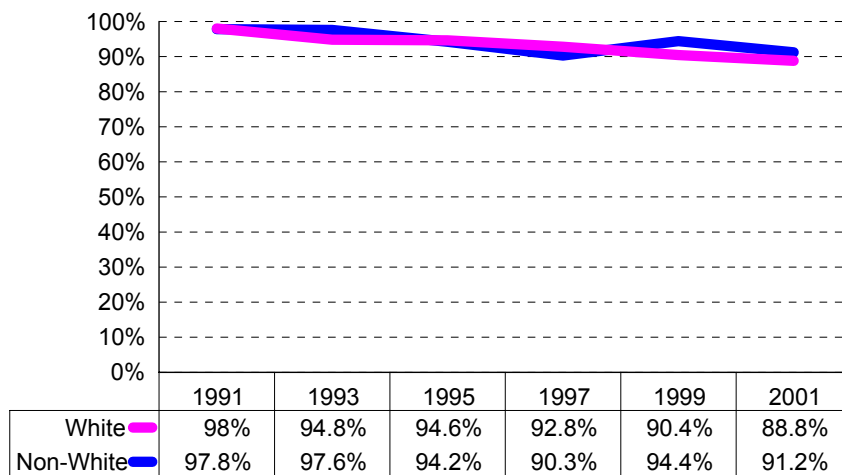


Figure 7: Seatbelt Use by Grade
 Always Wear a Seatbelt When Riding in a Car Driven by Someone E
 High School Students



- L Of those teens who reported riding a bicycle during the past 12 months, the percentage never or rarely wearing a helmet did not decline (not a statistically significant decline) for either white or non-white teens from 1997 to 2001.

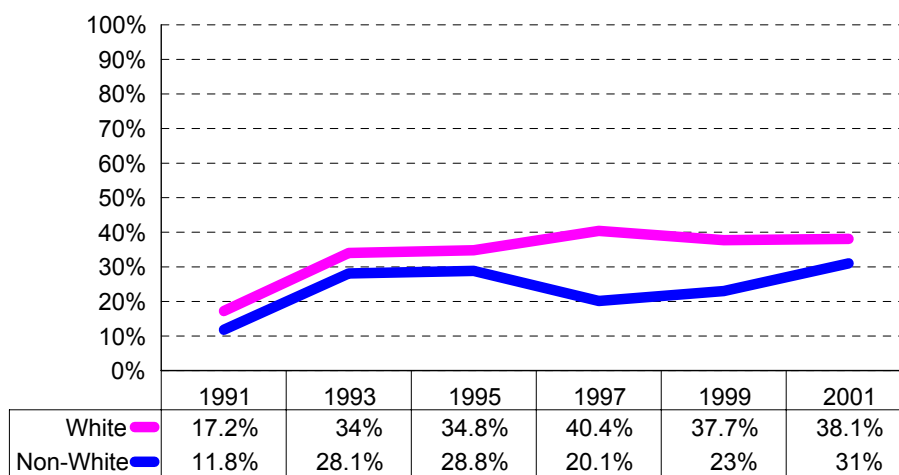
Figure 8: Rare Helmet Use (Bicycle)*
 Never or Rarely Wore a Bicycle Helmet
 (High School Students Who Reported Riding Bicycle in Past 12 Months)



*Grade Adjusted

- L In all the survey years white teens were more likely than non-white teens to report consistent seatbelt use.

Figure 9: Seatbelt Use*
 Always Wear a Seatbelt When Riding in a Car Driven by Someone Else
 High School Students



*Grade Adjusted